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Agenda items 8 and 15 (c)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of five members of the International Court of Justice

Election of a member of the International Court of Justice

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By a letter dated 19 November 1999, Judge Stephen Schwebel, the President of the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 4, of the Statute of the Court, informed the Secretary-General of his resignation as a member of the Court effective 29 February 2000. Thus, a vacancy will occur on 29 February 2000.

2. Judge Schwebel was elected as a member of the Court from 15 January 1981 and was re-elected as from 6 February 1988 and from 6 February 1997. His current term of office would have expired on 5 February 2006. In accordance with the terms of the Statute of the Court, the General Assembly and the Security Council will therefore have to elect a member of the Court to serve for the remainder of the term of Judge Schwebel.

3. The Security Council was informed of the occurrence of this vacancy in the Court in a note by the Secretary-General (S/1999/1197). Pursuant to Article 14 of the Statute of the Court, the Security Council is to fix the date of the election.

4. In order to enable the General Assembly to take the required action, it will, therefore, be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 15 (c).

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